

TITLE 13. PUBLIC SAFETY**CHAPTER 3. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
TOW TRUCKS**

(Authority: A.R.S. § 28-1007 et seq.)

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ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**R13-3-101. Definitions**

Words and phrases not defined hereinafter shall be consistent with definitions in Title 28, Arizona Revised Statute.

1. "Accident recovery work" means the towing or removal of a vehicle involved in an accident upon any highway or roadway and is damaged to the extent that an investigation by a law enforcement agency is required.
2. "Department" means the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
3. "Director" means the Director of the Department of Public Safety.
4. "Permit" means the Department of Public Safety tow truck permit inspection sticker required on all tow trucks.
5. "Power operated winch" means a winch operated by power including, but not limited to, power take-off, hydraulic, or electric.
6. "Tow truck" means a motor vehicle which is altered or designed for, and used in the business of towing vehicles

by means of a flat bed or other specially designed truck that is equipped with a tow sling, tow bar, tow plate or wheel lift apparatus, attached to the rear of the truck; or a crane or hoist that is attached to the bed or frame of the tow truck. Wrecker, garage tow truck, and slide back or roll back car carriers are synonymous and shall be termed "Tow Truck".

7. "Towing service" means the transportation upon the public streets and highways of the state of Arizona of damaged, disabled, unattended or abandoned vehicles together with personal effects and/or cargo by tow trucks. Wrecker service, tow car service, and garage tow truck service are synonymous and shall be termed "Towing Service".

Historical Note

Former rules 2.0 - 2.08; Former Section R13-3-01 repealed, former Section R13-3-02 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-101 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

ARTICLE 2. TOW TRUCK PERMITS**R13-3-201. Permit required**

A permit of authorization must be obtained from the Department before a tow truck is operated for the purpose of towing vehicles.

Historical Note

Former rule 3.0; Former Section R13-3-11 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-201 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-202. Permit application

- A. Applications for permits shall be made under oath to the Department of Public Safety in writing upon forms prescribed and furnished by the Department. The application shall contain all information required therein and shall be submitted to the Tow Truck Section, Arizona Department of Public Safety, P.O. Box 6638, Phoenix, Arizona, 85005. The Department shall be notified within ten days of any change of information supplied on the original application.
- B. In filing the application, the applicant expressly agrees, under penalty of suspension or revocation of his/her permit(s), that:
 1. All rules and regulations set forth herein will be followed.
 2. Any person operating a tow truck for his/her company will have the necessary experience and qualifications to operate a tow truck in the manner required by these rules and regulations.
- C. The Department shall issue a permit upon determining that the application was made and filed in good faith, that all submitted information is accurate, that the applicant and the applicant's towing equipment have met the minimum requirement established in law and in these rules and regulations. The Department may deny the application if any of the above conditions are not satisfied.
- D. If at any time a tow truck is sold, leased or otherwise disposed of, the tow truck owner shall notify the Department of the disposition of the truck and the permit issued for said truck shall immediately become null and void. Any person having subsequent control over said truck shall make application to the Department before operating said tow truck as a tow truck within the state.

Historical Note

Former rules 3.01 - 3.01.03; Former Section R13-3-12 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-202 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-203. Inspection by the Department

- A. As soon as possible after the tow truck application has been filed, the Department may cause a physical inspection of the tow truck to be conducted. If the tow truck is found to conform to the minimum standards of the class permit requested and the application meets the requirements as set forth in these rules and regulations, and the application is approved, said tow truck shall be issued a permanent identification number by the Director. This identification number shall be affixed inside the cab of the tow truck by the Department inspector.
- B. In addition to the identification number, the tow truck shall be issued an annual permit in the form of an inspection sticker which shall contain such pertinent information as is deemed necessary by the Department. This inspection sticker shall be conspicuously displayed on the outside lower right-hand corner of the truck's front windshield.
- C. Annual inspections shall be conducted to determine the condition of the tow truck. A tow truck meeting the minimum standards for its class may be granted a renewal of the permit.
- D. Nothing in these rules shall serve to prohibit any peace officer from conducting an inspection without notice to determine the fitness of a tow truck at any reasonable time and place.
- E. If at any time a tow truck is found to be in need of repair to meet the minimum standards for its class, the annual permit shall be suspended and the tow truck shall be removed from service until such repairs are effected and the tow truck is inspected and recertified by the Department.

Historical Note

Former rules 3.02 - 3.02.05; Former Section R13-3-13 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-203 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-204. Permit suspension and application refusal

- A. A tow truck permit may be suspended or an application may be refused for any one or more of the following conditions:
 1. Failure to supply true and accurate information on the permit application and inspection form.
 2. Failure to comply with any of these rules and regulations.
 3. Failure to submit to a tow truck inspection (refer to R13-3-203).
 4. Failure to display on the side of the tow truck, the business name, town and phone number of the tow truck company. The lettering used shall be in bold contrasting colors and at least three inches in height.

Historical Note

Former rules 3.02.06 - 3.02.10; Former Section R13-3-14 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-204 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

ARTICLE 3. TOW TRUCK SPECIFICATIONS**R13-3-301. Capacities and specifications of towing equipment**

- A. The minimum standards for each class of tow truck permits, referred to throughout these rules and regulations, shall be determined solely by the manufacturer's specifications for the capabilities and capacities of the tow trucks and all towing equipment, except that the Department may consider other evidence of such capabilities and capacities when it reasonably believes that the manufacturer's specifications overrate the tow truck's capacity.

- B. Each tow truck shall be equipped with only those winches and cranes that have been produced and constructed by a manufacturer of such equipment, and which regularly produces winches and cranes of guaranteed quality. However, a winch or crane will not be prohibited by this Section if the tow truck owner submits to the Department certification from one reputable testing laboratory, regularly engaged in the testing of such equipment or similar equipment, indicating that the capacity of the winch or crane is not less than the class for which application has been made. All costs of such testing and certification shall be at the expense of the tow truck owner.

Historical Note

Former rules 4.0 - 4.02; Former Section R13-3-21 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-301 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-302. Tow truck load limitations

No tow truck shall tow another vehicle unless the tow truck has a manufacturer's rating of 3/4 ton or higher, and the tow truck has been issued the appropriate permit required by these rules and regulations. Trucks with a manufacturer's rating of less than one ton shall not be permitted to do accident recovery work.

Historical Note

Former rule 5.0; Former Section R13-3-22 renumbered without change as Section R13-3-302 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-303. Prohibition of unauthorized operation

- A. No person shall stop at the scene of an accident or at or near a disabled vehicle for the purpose of soliciting an engagement for towing service, either directly or indirectly, nor furnish any towing service, unless he/she has been summoned to such scene by the owner or operator of a disabled vehicle or has been requested to perform such services at the request of a law enforcement officer or agency pursuant to that agency's procedures.
- B. Tow truck operators shall not, without the express authorization of the responsible investigating agency, move any vehicle from a public highway or street or from any public property when such vehicle is abandoned, stolen, damaged, or left unattended, except that, notwithstanding the conditions imposed in R13-3-303(A) of these rules and regulations, operators may, in emergency cases, slide left, right, or otherwise move a vehicle damaged as the result of an accident, if the removal is for the purpose of extracting a person from the wreckage or to remove an immediate hazard to life and/or property. In no event shall the movement be more than is reasonable and necessary.

Historical Note

Former rules 6.0 - 6.02; Former Section R13-3-23 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-303 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-304. Light duty tow trucks

- A. At no time shall any light duty tow truck exceed its manufacturer's gross vehicle weight or the manufacturer's rated capacity for the wrecker assembly.
- B. Light duty minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle weight rating of at least 8,000 pounds and rated by the manufacturer as one ton or more.
 2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
 3. A power-assisted service brake system adequate to control the movement of, and to stop and hold the combination of vehicles, under all conditions and on any grade on which they are operated.

4. A parking brake system separate from the service brake system which shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
5. At least dual rear wheels and tires or the equivalent.
- C. Wrecker (crane) minimum specifications:
 1. Total boom capacity of at least four tons.
 2. Power-operated winch with a capacity of at least four tons.
 3. Hand or electric-powered winches will not be used for accident recovery work.
 4. Winch power is determined by a single line pull.
 5. At least 100 feet of 3/8 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 12,200 pounds or more.
 6. At least 20 feet of 5/16 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 1,750 pounds or more.
- D. Light duty one car carrier minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle rating of at least 8,000 pounds and rated by the manufacturer as one ton or more.
 2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
 3. A power-assisted service brake system adequate to control the movement of, and to stop and hold the combination of vehicles, under all conditions and on any grade on which they are operated.
 4. A parking brake system separate from the service brake system which shall be maintained in good working condition.
 5. At least dual rear wheels and tires or the equivalent.
 6. A power-operated winch with a capacity of at least four tons with at least 50 feet of 3/8 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 12,200 pounds or more.
 7. A bed assembly of at least 3/16 inch steel plate or the equivalent and at least 15 feet in length and at least 7 feet in width.
 8. At least 20 feet of 5/16 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 1,750 pounds or more.
 9. If a tow plate (stinger) is attached to the rear of the tow truck bed or frame and used to raise the wheels of the towed vehicle off the ground, the stinger must have a tow bar capacity of at least 1,500 pounds.
- E. Double boom wrecker (crane) minimum specifications:
 1. Total boom capacity of at least ten tons.
 2. Double booms and lines, each to operate jointly and/or independently.
 3. Power-operated winches with a combined capacity of at least ten tons.
 4. At least two winches of not less than five tons each.
 5. Winch power is determined by a single line pull.
 6. At least 150 feet of 3/8 inch diameter wire rope per winch drum with a breaking strength of 12,200 pounds or more.
- D. Single boom wrecker (crane) minimum specifications:
 1. Boom capacity of at least ten tons.
 2. Boom line winch with a minimum capacity of at least ten tons, with at least 150 feet of 1/2 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 21,400 pounds or more.
 3. Deck winch minimum capacity of at least ten tons with at least 150 feet of 1/2 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 21,400 pounds or more.
- E. Hydraulic wrecker assemblies minimum specifications:
 1. Boom capacity of at least ten tons.
 2. Boom line(s) which operate jointly and/or independently.
 3. Hydraulically operated winches with a combined capacity of at least ten tons, with a deck winch minimum capacity of at least ten tons except that one single boom line winch may be used instead, if it has the capacity of at least ten tons and is used with a deck winch with a minimum capacity of at least ten tons.
 4. At least 150 feet of 3/8 inch diameter wire rope per winch drum with a breaking strength of 12,200 pounds or more.
 5. At least 35 feet of 3/8 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 2,450 pounds or more.
- F. Medium duty two car carrier minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle weight of at least 15,000 pounds and rated by the manufacturer as two tons or more.
 2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
 3. A power assisted service brake system adequate to control the movement of, and to stop and hold the combination of vehicles, under all conditions and on any grade on which they are operated.
 4. A parking brake system separate from the service brake system which shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
 5. At least dual rear wheels and tires or the equivalent.
 6. A hydraulically operated winch of at least 6 tons, with at least 50 feet of 3/8 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 12,200 pounds or more.
 7. A bed assembly of at least 1/4 inch steel plate or the equivalent and at least 17 feet in length and at least 7 feet in width.
 8. At least 30 feet of 3/8 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 2,450 pounds or more.
 9. If a tow plate (stinger) is attached to the rear of the tow truck structure and used to raise the wheels of the towed vehicle off the ground, the stinger must have a tow bar capacity of at least 3,500 pounds.
- G. Medium duty three car carrier minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle weight of at least 22,000 pounds.
 2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
 3. A power-assisted service brake system adequate to control the movement of, and to stop and hold the combination of vehicles, under all conditions and on any grade on which they are operated.
 4. A parking brake system separate from the service brake system which shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
 5. At least dual rear wheels and tires or the equivalent.

Historical Note

Former rules 7.0 - 7.03; Former Section R13-3-24 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-304 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-305. Medium duty tow trucks

- A. At no time shall any medium duty tow truck exceed its manufacturer's gross vehicle weight or the manufacturer's rated capacity for the wrecker assembly.
- B. Medium duty minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle weight rating of at least 15,000 pounds and rated by the manufacturer as 1 1/2 tons or more.
 2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
 3. A power-assisted service brake system adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the combination of vehicles under all conditions and on any grade on which they are operated.
 4. When towing vehicles equipped with an air brake system, shall have the equipment necessary to join the air systems together in order to activate the brakes from the cab of the tow truck.
 5. A parking brake system separate from the service brake system which shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
 6. At least dual rear wheels and tires or the equivalent.
 7. At least 35 feet of 3/8 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 2,450 pounds or more.

6. A hydraulically operated winch of at least 6 tons, with at least 50 feet of 3/8 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 12,200 pounds or more.
7. A bed assembly of at least 1/4 inch steel plate or the equivalent and at least 17 feet in length and at least 7 feet in width, a bed assembly over the cab of at least 3/16 inch steel plate or the equivalent and at least 10 feet in length and at least 7 feet in width.
8. At least 30 feet of 3/8 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 2,450 pounds or more.
9. If a tow plate (stinger) is attached to the rear of the tow truck structure and used to raise the wheels of the towed vehicle off the ground, the stinger must have a tow bar capacity of at least 3,500 pounds.

Historical Note

Former rules 8.0 - 8.04; Correction, subsection C. Paragraph 4. not included in original publication (Supp. 77-1).
Former Section R13-3-25 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-305 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-306. Heavy duty tow trucks

- A. At no time shall any heavy duty tow truck exceed its manufacturer's gross vehicle weight or the manufacturer's rated capacity for the wrecker assembly, provided that the manufacturer's weights are not in excess of the legal limitations of A.R.S. §§ 28-1008 and 28-1009.
- B. Heavy duty minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle rating of at least 35,000 pounds (usually rated by the manufacturer as 3 1/2 tons).
 2. Tandem rear axles, equipped with dual rear wheels and tires, or the equivalent.
 3. A five-speed main transmission or the equivalent.
 4. A brake system equipped with a truck-tractor protection valve.
 5. Full air brakes so constructed and controlled as to permit locking of all rear wheels (air lock).
 6. A dependable parking brake system separate from the service brake system which shall be maintained in good working order at all times.
 7. Required accessories:
 - a. Trailer hitch: pintle hook type or the equivalent.
 - b. one semi-trailer converter dolly or fifth-wheel mount. Option: If a converter dolly or fifth-wheel mount is not owned by the wrecker owner, he must have one immediately available at all times. Documentary proof must be filed with the Department for the above option when the application for permit is filed.
 - c. Chain with hooks meeting the following specifications:
 - i. At least 35 feet of 3/8 inch diameter chain with a safe working load of 2,450 pounds or more.
 - ii. At least 20 feet of 5/8 inch diameter chain with a safe working load of 6,375 pounds or more.
 - d. Air lines: At least 75 feet of auxiliary air lines with the necessary fittings in two sections of appropriate length. These sections will connect to the air supply of the towed vehicle for the purpose of brake application.
- C. Double boom wrecker (crane) minimum specifications:
 1. A total capacity of at least 25 tons.
 2. Double booms and lines each to operate jointly and/or independently.
 3. Power-operated winches combined capacity of at least 25 tons.

4. At least two winches of at least 12 1/2 tons capacity each.
5. Winch power is determined by a single line pull.
6. At least 200 feet of 9/16 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 27,000 pounds or more.
- D. Single boom wrecker (crane) minimum specifications:
 1. Boom line winch with a minimum capacity of at least 25 tons with at least 200 feet of 3/4 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of at least 51,200 pounds or more.
 2. Deck winch with a minimum capacity of at least 15 tons with at least 200 feet of 5/8 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of at least 33,400 pounds or more.
- E. Hydraulic wrecker assemblies minimum specifications:
 1. Boom capacity of at least 25 tons.
 2. Boom line(s) which operate jointly and/or independently.
 3. Hydraulically operated winches with a combined capacity of at least 25 tons, except that one single boom line winch may be used instead if it has a capacity of at least 25 tons and is used with a deck winch with a minimum capacity of 15 tons.
 4. Double winches on a single boom with a minimum of 200 feet of 5/8 inch diameter wire rope per winch with a breaking strength of 27,000 pounds or more.
 5. A single winch on a single boom with a minimum of 200 feet of 3/4 inch diameter wire rope with a breaking strength of 33,400 pounds or more.
- F. Heavy duty car carrier minimum specifications:
 1. Gross vehicle weight of at least 35,000 pounds, rated by the manufacturer as 3 1/2 tons or more.
 2. Tandem rear axles equipped with dual rear wheels and tires or the equivalent.
 3. A five-speed main transmission or the equivalent.
 4. Full air brakes.
 5. Air brakes so constructed and controlled as to permit locking of all rear wheels (air lock).
 6. A brake system equipped with truck-tractor protection valve.
 7. A dependable parking brake system.
 8. A hydraulically operated winch with a minimum capacity of ten tons, and at least 50 feet of 7/16 inch wire rope with a breaking strength of 33,400 pounds or more.
 9. A bed assembly of at least 3/8 inch steel plate or the equivalent, and at least 21 feet in length and at least 7 feet in width. A bed assembly over the cab of at least 3/16 inch steel plate or the equivalent and at least 10 feet in length and at least 7 feet in width.
 10. At least 40 feet of 1/2 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 4,240 pounds or more.
 11. If a tow plate (stinger) is attached to the rear of the tow truck structure and used to raise the wheels of the towed vehicle off the ground, the tow plate (stinger) must have a tow bar capacity of at least 5,000 pounds.

Historical Note

Former rules 9.0 - 9.05.03; Correction, subsection (C)(3) and (4) not included in original publication (Supp. 77-1).
Former Section R13-3-26 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-306 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-307. Class "X" tow trucks

- A. Class "X" tow trucks shall not be used to render assistance or for accident recovery work but may be used for the purpose of towing vehicles from one location to another.
- B. At no time shall any Class "X" tow truck exceed its manufacturer's gross vehicle weight or the rated capacity of the wrecker assembly.

C. Class "X" truck minimum specifications:

1. A gross vehicle weight rating of at least 7,500 pounds and rated by the manufacturer as a 3/4 ton or more.
2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
3. Dual rear wheels or the equivalent.
4. A boom (crane) with a boom capacity of at least three tons and a single line winch capacity of at least three tons.
5. Wire rope of at least 5/16 inch diameter with a breaking strength of 8,520 pounds or more.
6. At least 20 feet of 5/16 inch diameter chain with hooks, with a safe working load of 1,750 pounds or more.
7. Any class X roll back or slideback car carriers must meet the minimum specifications consistent with light, medium or heavy duty classes.
8. Equipment required is that contained in R13-3-401(E) through (P), (R), (V), (X), (Z), (AA) and R13-3-402.

Historical Note

Former rules 10.0 - 10.04; Former Section R13-3-27 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-307 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-308. Service trucks

- A.** Service trucks (Class S) shall not be used for accident recovery work but may be used to render assistance to vehicles.
- B.** At no time shall any service truck exceed its manufacturer's gross vehicle weight or the manufacturer's rated capacity for the wrecker assembly.
- C.** Service truck minimum specifications:
 1. A gross vehicle weight rating of at least 7,500 pounds and rated by the manufacturer as a three-quarter ton or more.
 2. A four-speed transmission or the equivalent.
 3. Dual rear wheels or the equivalent.
 4. A boom (crane) with a:
 - a. Boom capacity of at least three tons and single line winch capacity of at least three tons.
 - b. Wire rope shall be at least 5/16 inch diameter with a breaking strength of at least 8,520 pounds or more.
 - c. At least 20 feet of 5/16 inch diameter chain with hooks with a safe working load of 1,750 pounds or more.
 5. Accessories. Refer to R13-3-401 and R13-3-402 under General Tow Truck Lighting & Equipment Specifications for complete list of accessories required.

Historical Note

Former rules 11.0 - 11.06; Former Section R13-3-28 renumbered as Section R13-3-308 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

ARTICLE 4. TOW TRUCK EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS**R13-3-401. General tow truck lighting and equipment**

- A.** Tow trucks shall comply with lighting and equipment requirements for trucks contained in Title 28, A.R.S. Additional equipment requirements relating specifically to tow trucks are contained in the following pages. If more detailed information is needed, a copy of Title 28, A.R.S. may be purchased from the Motor Vehicle Division of the Arizona Department of Transportation.
- B.** Warning lamps & lights required: Warning lights are to be used only at the scene of the service or in towing a vehicle which is damaged to the extent that it presents a hazard to other users of the street or highway. No red light shall be visible from in front of a vehicle.
 1. Flashing type lamps. (Emergency top mount lights):
 - a. The color shall be amber to the front, amber or red to the rear with at least two lamps of at least 6 inches in

diameter having a lens surface of at least 28.26 square inches each.

- b. These lamps are to be mounted as high as practical and with their light visible from the front and rear for a distance of 500 feet under normal atmospheric conditions.

2. Warning lamps may be wired independently or in conjunction with stop and signal lamps. If tail lamps are also incorporated, then either a separate bulb or a double contact-type bulb shall be used.

C. A rotating beacon may be used in lieu of the two flashing lamps.

1. At least one beacon is required with amber lens or amber to the front and red to the rear.
2. The beacon shall be mounted as high as practical with its light visible for 360 degrees for a distance of 500 feet under normal atmospheric conditions.
3. Each beacon shall have at least four seal beams or at least two beacons with two seal beams each.
4. The lens size of the beacon shall be at least 9 inches in diameter at its narrowest point, and 5 inches in height with a lens surface of 141.2 square inches. Two smaller beacons may be used only if the total square inches of both at least equal that required of the one above.
5. Beacons shall be wired independently of all other electrical circuits.
6. Strobe lights may be used in lieu of rotating beacons or flashing lights.

D. Work lamps:

1. The lens shall be clear.
2. The lens' diameter shall be at least four inches in diameter.
3. There shall be at least two work lamps used in the system.
4. Lamps shall be mounted so as to illuminate the area directly behind the tow truck for a distance of at least 50 feet.
5. Work lamps shall be wired so they are not dependent on the position of the gear shift.
6. Work lamps shall not be in operation while the tow truck is in forward motion.

E. Portable tail, stop and signal lamps required:

1. At least two separate lamps with mounting brackets or mounting clips.
 - a. The lens shall be red in color.
 - b. The lens' diameter shall be at least three inches each.
2. Connections shall be made with suitable male and female connectors and flexible rubber or plastic cord. The portable lamps may be wired permanently to the truck's electrical system if a suitable bracket for both cord and lamp is provided.
 - a. All cord shall be measured from rear of tow truck.
 - i. Light duty, service duty, and Class "X": cord length of at least 25 feet.
 - ii. Medium duty: cord length of at least 30 feet.
 - iii. Heavy duty: cord length of at least 75 feet.
 - b. Lamp cords shall be flexible rubber or plastic containing at least four conductors of at least 16 gauge in a single manufactured cable. Single wires taped together are prohibited.
3. Additional portable lamps required on heavy duty tow trucks.
 - a. Clearance lamps shall be incorporated with the portable lamp system and shall be mounted on the sides at the rear of a towed vehicle.

- b. Clearance lamps shall have red lens and shall be of the type with a visibility range of at least 180 degrees.
 - c. Clearance lamps may be permanently wired to the portable lamp system or may be connected with suitable male and female electrical connectors to the tow truck system.
 - d. Electrical ground connections shall be made through the power supply cable in all portable lamp systems. Systems dependent on a towed vehicle for grounding are not acceptable.
- F. Use of portable lamps:**
 - 1. Tow truck operators are required to affix two tail lights, two stop lights and two signal lights to the rear-most vehicle of any train of vehicles any time of day or night that the vehicles are towed or operated, on any street or highway.
 - 2. When a combination of vehicles is operated during the time that lighted lamps are required, there shall be exhibited on the rear of any towed vehicles at least two red tail lights.
- G. Head lamps:** See A.R.S. § 28-924.
- H. Tail lamps:** See A.R.S. § 28-925.
- I. Reflectors:** See A.R.S. §§ 28-926, 28-929, and 28-932.
 - 1. All tow trucks shall have reflectors and clearance lamps on the front, sides and rear as required as by A.R.S. §§ 28-926, 28-929, and 28-932.
 - 2. Color mounting and visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps and sidemarker lamps shall be consistent with A.R.S. §§ 28-931, 28-932, and 28-933.
- J. Stop lamps:** two See A.R.S. § 28-927. Meeting with specifications outlined under A.R.S. § 28-93(A)(1).
- K. Directional signals:** See A.R.S. § 28-939.
 - 1. All tow trucks are required to be equipped with electrical flashing directional signals.
 - 2. Directional signals shall be connected in a manner so as to permit "4-way" flash.
- L. Horns:** See A.R.S. § 28-954.
- M. Mufflers:** See A.R.S. § 28-955.
- N. Mirrors:** See A.R.S. § 28-956.
 - 1. All tow trucks are to be equipped with two side rear-vision mirrors, one at each side.
 - 2. The minimum size per mirror surface is 24 square inches.
- O. Windshield and windshield wipers:** See A.R.S. § 28-957.
- P. Certain vehicles must carry flares or other warning devices, i.e. three red fusees (15 minutes), three electric lanterns or three portable reflectors.** See A.R.S. § 28-960.
- Q. Clearance lamps and side reflectors:**
 - 1. All tow truck assemblies, regardless of their width, shall have clearance lamps and side reflectors as described in A.R.S. § 28-929(2).
 - 2. two amber cab clearance lamps are required, showing amber to the front and mounted on the outside edge of the cab.
 - 3. Color, mounting, and visibility of reflectors, clearance lamps, and sidemarker lamp shall be consistent with A.R.S. §§ 28-931, 28-932, and 28-933.
- R. Rear fender splash guards:** See A.R.S. § 28-958.01.
- S. Shovel and broom:**
 - 1. All tow trucks shall have as part of their equipment a shovel and a broom, kept in good condition.
 - 2. The shovel shall be at least a No. 2 and shall be a square point type.
 - 3. The broom shall be a push broom and have at least a 14-inch head.
- T. Oil-absorbing material:** All trucks operated in metropolitan areas shall have the following: Sand or a commercial oil and grease absorbent, or at least 1155 cubic inches of material or the equivalent of a five-gallon can of material which can be carried in a weatherproof container.
- U. Electric lantern or flashlight:** All tow trucks shall have at all times in good working condition a battery-powered electric lantern, or a two-cell flashlight in lieu of an electric lantern.
- V. Fire extinguishers:** Each tow truck shall be equipped with either:
 - 1. A fire extinguisher having an Underwriters Laboratories rating of 5 B:C or more, or
 - 2. Two fire extinguishers, each of which has an Underwriters Laboratories rating of 4 B:C or more.
- W. Steering wheel clamp:** A steering wheel clamp or its equivalent shall be of sufficient strength to adequately lock the steering mechanism of a towed vehicle in a straight forward position.
- X. Tow sling or tow plate:**
 - 1. Every tow truck shall be equipped with a tow sling, plate or bar, that is structurally adequate for any weight drawn. Slings or plates shall be properly and securely mounted on the tow truck without excessive slack.
 - 2. The tow plates, slings and tow-bears shall be securely attached to the tow vehicle by means of chains and hooks. Attachment chains will have a capacity equal to the weight of the towed vehicle. At least two chains shall be used.
 - 3. There shall be one snatch block of matched size to the rating of the wrecker assembly.
- Y. Attachment chains ("J" hooks):**
 - 1. Every towed vehicle shall be coupled to the tow truck with attachment chains of a structural strength equal to the gross weight of the towed vehicle.
 - 2. Attachment chains shall be securely attached to the towing and towed vehicle with no more slack left in the chain or cable than is necessary to permit proper turning.
- Z. Tire chains (skid chains):**
 - 1. Tow trucks are to be equipped with one set of tire chains for at least one driving wheel on each side whenever ice or snow makes driving conditions hazardous.
 - 2. Chains shall be maintained in good condition.
- AA. Tire equipment:**
 - 1. Tires supporting the tow truck should be of such size and ply that the sum of their capacity as shown by the particular manufacturer shall at least equal the gross laden weight of the tow truck.
 - 2. Tire wear and replacement:
 - a. No tow truck shall be operated on any tire that has fabric exposed through the tread or sidewall.
 - b. Any tire on the front wheels of the tow truck shall have a tread groove pattern depth of at least 4/32 of an inch when measured at any point on a major tread groove.
 - c. Except as provided in subparagraph (b) of this Section, tires shall have a tread groove pattern depth of at least 2/32 of an inch when measured at any point on a major tread groove.
 - d. The Department tow truck inspector shall make the final decision concerning any question arising under this Section.

Historical Note

Former rules 12.0 - 12.17.02.02; Former Section R13-3-35 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-401 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-402. Tow truck components must be in good operating condition

All tow truck components (i.e., winches, booms, cables, cable clamps, thimbles, sheaves, guides, controls, blocks, slings, chains, hooks, and hydraulic components), are to be maintained in good condition at all times. Cable fittings for hooks, slings, etc., shall be assembled by factory recommendations and specifications. All portable equipment (i.e., shovel, broom, reflectors, flashlights, fire extinguisher, etc.), shall be permanent accessories and be available on the truck at all times.

Historical Note

Former rule 12.18; Former Section R13-3-36 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-402 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

ARTICLE 5. QUALIFICATIONS OF TOW TRUCK OPERATORS**R13-3-501. Chauffeurs license, skills, and knowledge required**

- A.** No tow truck owner shall operate or permit anyone to operate a tow truck until the following requirements are fulfilled:
1. Tow truck operators shall have a valid Class "4" or "5" Arizona Chauffeurs license. A.R.S. § 28-414(B).
 2. Every operator shall be competent by reason of experience or training to safely operate the type of tow truck or tow trucks allowed by permit.
 3. Every operator shall possess the knowledge and ability to rig, move, pick up and transport vehicles without increasing the original damage insofar as possible.
 4. Every operator shall be free from the influence of alcoholic beverages, narcotics, or dangerous drugs when on duty.
 5. No tow truck company or individual shall operate a tow truck without displaying proof of current insurance in accordance with A.R.S. §§ 28-1251, 28-1253, 28-1255. The tow truck company shall submit proof of current insurance to the Department of Public Safety upon demand.
- B.** Every owner and operator shall be familiar with the laws and rules and regulations pertaining to tow trucks.

Historical Note

Former rules 13.0 - 13.05; Former Section R13-3-40 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-501 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

ARTICLE 6. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**R13-3-601. Revocation or suspension of permit**

- A.** Any person who violates any rule or Regulation herein may have his or her tow truck permit(s) revoked or suspended by the Director or his authorized subordinate. Such action shall be pursuant to the provisions of A.R.S. § 41-1013.
- B.** In cases where, in the opinion of the Director or his representative, there is a compelling public necessity, the Director or his authorized representative may waive the enforcement of any of these rules and regulations, but all such waivers shall be treated separately for each party and each rule or regulation, and there shall be no collective waivers.

Historical Note

Former rules 14.0 - 14.02; Former Section R13-3-45 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-601 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-602. Grounds for suspension of permit

A tow truck permit may be suspended for up to one year under the following conditions:

1. If the owner or operator violates any rule or regulation herein which does not warrant revocation. The period of suspension shall be determined according to the severity and frequency of the violation.
2. If the owner knowingly continues to employ an operator who has been convicted of more than two moving violations under A.R.S. Title 28 during a one-year period. The suspension shall be for a period of one year from the date of the third conviction. There shall be no suspension for a violation of this Section unless it is proven that the owner knew or should have known of the operator's convictions.

Historical Note

Former rules 15.0 - 15.01; Former Section R13-3-46 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-602 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-603. Grounds for revocation of permit

A tow truck permit may be revoked under the following conditions:

1. If, while engaged in the operation of a tow truck, an owner or operator is convicted of A.R.S. § 28-692 (driving while under the influence of narcotics, dangerous drugs or intoxicating beverages) or A.R.S. § 28-693 (reckless driving), or has had his/her license to drive suspended under A.R.S. § 28-691 (Implied Consent Law), A.R.S. § 28-473 (License Suspension or Revocation) or A.R.S. § 28-1203 (Suspended, No Insurance, FR).
2. If it is discovered that a permit was issued on information supplied by the applicant that the applicant knew or should have reasonably known was false or inaccurate.
3. If the owner or operator refuses to make prompt restitution for any avoidable damage caused by his failure to comply with R13-3-501(A)(3) of these rules and regulations.
4. If the owner or an operator habitually violates any rule or Regulation herein or A.R.S. § 9-499.05.

Historical Note

Former rules 16.0 - 16.01.05; Former Section R13-3-47 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-603 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).

R13-3-604. Appeals from tow truck enforcement action

- A.** Any person who has had a permit denied, or who has suffered any penalty under these rules and regulations, shall have the right to a hearing. A temporary suspension of operation pursuant to Section R13-3-203(E) is not a penalty, and no hearing shall be provided for the persons affected.
- B.** The hearing shall be conducted pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 41-1009, 41-1010, 41-1011, and 41-1013.
- C.** The Director or his authorized representative may, at his discretion, combine requests for hearings into one hearing where there are common parties or issues.
- D.** The hearing shall be conducted by a tow truck hearing board, comprised of the following members: Chairman - Commander of the Special Services Division of the Department, the affected District Commander of the Department, and one representative of the tow truck industry currently permitted and engaged in the business of towing, to be appointed by the Director.
- E.** Any notice required to be given to any party or person shall be in writing pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1009. Such notice shall be deemed sufficient and complete when deposited in the United States mail, addressed to the last known address of the party to

receive the notice as evidenced by the most recent application on file with the Department.

- F.** Within 35 days after the date of the final decision rendered in any hearing, an appeal may be taken to the Superior Court of the county in which any of the conditions of A.R.S. § 12-

905(B) apply. Appeals to the Superior Court shall be governed by the provisions of A.R.S. § 12-901 et seq.

Historical Note

Former rules 17.0 - 17.08; Former Section R13-3-48 renumbered and amended as Section R13-3-604 effective September 26, 1985 (Supp. 85-5).